

Beware, Spring is here !

Fair Oaks District Station



Proudly Serving the Community

FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Fair Oaks District
Community Connection

Remember: Spring is in the air,

But we beg you to beware.

Before the outdoor sun,

Before you start the fun,

Lock up your home,

So folks who roam,

Won't go inside,

Or steal your ride.

It's opportunity they seek,

You can make it very weak.

Just lock your door and be alert,

So you and yours just don't get hurt.

Then call police, but don't be shy,

We love to cuff the big ,bad guy.

Stay safe and be alert!



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Events of Interest :

- April 12 - Easter
- April 19 - Eastern Orthodox Easter
- April 21 - Holocaust Remembrance Day



Neighborhood Watch Training Dates for 2009!

The Fair Oaks District Police Station has three training dates remaining for the Neighborhood Watch Program. As usual they will be held at the station, located at 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, at 7:00 p.m. in the roll call room. These opportunities are designed for communities that want to expand their existing Neighborhood Watch participation, those who wish to begin a new Watch program or those who would like a refresher course.

We look forward to serving you and maintaining the quality of community and police partnerships that we have both come to depend on and enjoy.

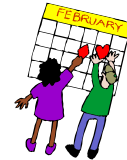
The training dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, April 14
- Tuesday, July 14
- Tuesday, October 13

Mark Your Calendars



NOW!



Request a Neighborhood Watch Program for Your Community Today!

The requirement is a short and simple one-time, two-hour training commitment. Learn how to detect, react to and report criminal or suspicious behaviors. Know how to better protect yourself and your community.

For more information, contact one of your Crime Prevention Officers at the Fair Oaks District Police Station: MPO Sophia Grinnan at sophia.grinnan@fairfaxcounty.gov or PFC Wayne Twombly at 703-352-2163. Thank you.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEMBERS AND CAC MEMBERS PLEASE READ!



REMEMBER: Citizen's Advisory Committee and Neighborhood Watch meetings have been separated!

CAC meetings are still held on the last Tuesday of every month at the Fair Oaks District Station roll call room at 7:30 p.m. Neighborhood Watch members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Although there was not a meeting in March we will resume our meetings in April.

Neighborhood Watch meetings convene at 7 p.m. at the same location; we changed to quarterly instead of monthly dates. This will afford your Crime Prevention Officers the opportunity to focus more attention on you and your community concerns.

The remaining Neighborhood Watch meeting dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, June 9
- Tuesday, September 8
- Tuesday, December 8



STREET /// SMART

A public safety program of
the District of Columbia,
Maryland, and
Virginia.

about StreetSmart
walk
drive
bike
resources

Area Police are enforcing
pedestrian safety laws.

The Fairfax County Police Department, in cooperation with the Washington, D.C. and suburban Maryland police departments, kicked off the annual Street Smart Campaign on Monday, March 23, and will run through Sunday, April 19

The goals of the Fairfax County Police Department are to change motorist and pedestrian behavior and reduce pedestrian and bicyclist deaths and injury by increasing awareness of the consequences of pedestrian and bicycle crashes.

Nationally

In 2006, 4,784 pedestrians were killed in the United States (up from 4,675 in 2004.) The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that a pedestrian is killed almost every 2 hours and injured every 9 minutes on our nation's roadways. Nationally, pedestrians account for 11% of motor vehicle deaths with urban areas having higher fatality rates than rural areas.

Regionally

Approximately 2900 pedestrians and bicyclists are injured every year in the Washington- region, and 84 are killed.

Pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities accounted for one-fifth of the total traffic fatalities in D.C. suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia from 2002 to 2006.

Across the greater Metro-area, drivers, cyclists and pedestrians are leading contributors to the problem in that:

- Pedestrians act impulsively by failing to look both ways before crossing.
- Pedestrians fail to use the crosswalks where required And do not cross with the signal.
- Drivers speed and ignore crosswalk laws.
- Cyclists ride against traffic and ignore stop signs and traffic signals.

Recommended actions that will reduce risks are:

- * **Use Crosswalks**
- * **Obey Signals**
- * **Look Left-Right-Left**
- * **Slow Down**
- * **Stop for Pedestrians**

REMEMBER...

**Drivers, watch for pedestrians & bicyclists!
Pedestrians, stay alert and use crosswalks!**

Reduce Your Chances of Becoming a Burglary Victim

Protect Yourself and Your Home or Business!



1. Lock all your doors. Consider installing quality locks.
2. Lock all your windows and patio doors. Consider protective window films.
3. Be sure your valuables are not visible from outside.
4. Keep shrubbery around your property trimmed and low.
5. Make your home appear occupied. Consider placing your lights and TVs on timers.
6. Get to know your neighbors and look out for each other's property, especially when you are on vacation.
7. Light the exterior of your home or business during hours of darkness.
8. Immediately report suspicious noises, people, vehicles or incidents.
9. Be involved with your Neighborhood or Business Watch.
10. Draw your curtains or blinds after dark.
11. Illuminate the inside of your business at the end of the day.
12. Don't clutter your doors and windows with signage or decoration that could prevent you from observing the outside.
13. If a repair person or stranger is in your home or business keep valuables out of sight.

Contact your Crime Prevention Unit for a

FREE home or business security survey

Fair Oaks District Crime Prevention Officers:

MPO Sophia Grinnan at sophia.grinnan@fairfaxcounty.gov

or PFC Wayne Twombly at 703-352-2163



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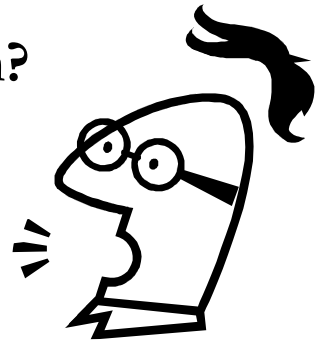
An Increase in Thefts from Vehicles Yields Yet Another Reminder...



The Fair Oaks District has experienced an **INCREASE** in thefts from vehicles!

How are they breaking in?

- Breaking windows
- Entering through unlocked doors
- Bypassing locking systems



How do you protect your valuables?

TAKE THEM OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE!

The reason people steal personal belongings from your car is because they see something they want. Remember, what is not valuable to you may be the object of their desire.



PLEASE take the extra time to **physically** remove your CD player, blue tooth, laptop, GPS, CDs, purse, radio, etc. from your vehicle. Remove any empty bags or briefcases to relieve the criminals' curiosities.

Render your car **UNATTRACTIVE!**



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December, 2008*



Dodge a Ticket...Did You Know?



§ 46.2-100 Definitions.

"Crosswalk" means that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; or any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.



"Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel in the Commonwealth, including the streets and alleys, and, for law-enforcement purposes, (i) the entire width between the boundary lines of all private roads or private streets that have been specifically designated "highways" by an ordinance adopted by the governing body of the county, city, or town in which such private roads or streets are located and (ii) the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place used for purposes of vehicular travel on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the United States government and located in the Commonwealth.

§ 46.2-924 Drivers to stop for pedestrians;

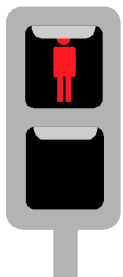
A. The driver of any vehicle on a highway shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian crossing such highway:

1. At any clearly marked crosswalk, whether at mid-block or at the end of any block;
2. At any regular pedestrian crossing included in the prolongation of the lateral boundary lines of the adjacent sidewalk at the end of a block;
3. At any intersection when the driver is approaching on a highway or street where the legal maximum speed does not exceed 35 miles per hour.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of this section, at intersections or crosswalks where the movement of traffic is being regulated by law-enforcement officers or traffic control devices, the driver shall yield according to the direction of the law-enforcement officer or device.

No pedestrian shall enter or cross an intersection in disregard of approaching traffic.

The drivers of vehicles entering, crossing, or turning at intersections shall change their course, slow down, or stop if necessary to permit pedestrians to cross such intersections safely and expeditiously.



Pedestrians crossing highways at intersections shall at all times have the right-of-way over vehicles making turns into the highways being crossed by the pedestrians.

This section continued on next page...

Continuation of “Dodge a Ticket...Did You Know?”



§ 46.2-923 How and where pedestrians to cross highway.

When crossing highways, pedestrians shall not carelessly or maliciously interfere with the orderly passage of vehicles. They shall cross, wherever possible, only at intersections or marked crosswalks. Where intersections contain no marked crosswalks, pedestrians shall not be guilty of negligence as a matter of law for crossing at any such intersection or between intersections when crossing by the most direct route.

The governing body of any town or city or the governing body of a county authorized by law to regulate traffic may by ordinance permit pedestrians to cross an intersection diagonally when all traffic entering the intersection has been halted by lights, other traffic control devices, or by a law-enforcement officer.

§ 46.2-926 Pedestrians stepping into highway where they cannot be seen.

No pedestrian shall step into a highway open to moving vehicular traffic at any point between intersections where his presence would be obscured from the vision of drivers of approaching vehicles by a vehicle or other obstruction at the curb or side. The foregoing prohibition shall not apply to a pedestrian stepping into a highway to board a bus or to enter a safety zone, in which event he shall cross the highway only at right angles.

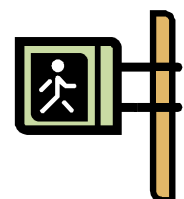
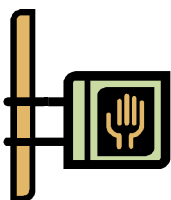
§ 46.2-927 Boarding or alighting from buses.

When actually boarding or alighting from buses, pedestrians shall have the right-of-way over vehicles, but shall not, in order to board or alight from buses, step into the highway sooner or remain there longer than is absolutely necessary.

§ 46.2-928 Pedestrians not to use roadway except when necessary, keeping to left.

Pedestrians shall not use the roadways for travel, except when necessary to do so because of the absence of sidewalks which are reasonably suitable and passable for their use. If they walk on the hard surface, or the main travelled portion of the roadway, they shall keep to the extreme left side or edge thereof, or where the shoulders of the highway are of sufficient width to permit, they may walk on either shoulder thereof.

**Practice courtesy, patience and law abidance;
You will help saves lives!**





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Assistant Commander,
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Crime Prevention Unit:
703-352-2163

Fairfax County Crime Solvers:
1-866-411-TIPS or 703-691-8888

Fairfax County Police:
Non-Emergency: 703-691-2131

Citizen Reporting System:
 (for reports not requiring officer response)
 Call the non-emergency number at
 703-691-2131 or report online at
www.fairfaxcounty.gov to public safety,
 police department.



A Fairfax County, Va., publication

EDITION 39

Don't Fall Prey to Scams!



Often times we hear from our community that they have received mail, e-mails, phone calls or solicitors whose product sounds like it may be a scam. Some examples are:

- * Door-to-door alarm company sales
- * Lottery winners
- * Bank Account verifications
- * Cheap and quick landscaping or driveway repair
- * Craig's List (or other Internet) scams



The way to combat these scams is not to fall prey to them. Many, but not all, door-to-door alarm company sales are scams. If you are interested in their product, get their information and check them out. A good rule of thumb is to check the yellow pages or Internet and then read the referrals on them. Check with consumer affairs and ask if they have heard of this company or if they have encountered any complaints about them.

Another rule of thumb is that if the deal is too good to be true, then it is. Even with the economy being so poor, the low costs you will find will be reasonable, but not excessive. Companies have to make money, too, or they will fold.

More advice: Do not, **UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**, give out your financial or banking information. If you don't know **FOR SURE** with whom you are communicating, then check them out! Call the bank or your credit card company. If you have posted some items for sale on Craig's List, for example, you may get a call that your product has been sold but they need your banking info. **WRONG!** Don't fall for it. Call the company to report it.

If you would like more information on these types of crimes, or would like to schedule a community or business seminar about scams (free of charge, and this is no scam) call one of your Crime Prevention Officers, at the Fair Oaks District: MPO Sophia Grinnan (sophia.grinnan@fairfaxcounty.gov) or PFC Wayne Twombly at 703-352-2163.



POLICE-FIRE-RESCUE
EMERGENCY
9-1-1



NON-EMERGENCY
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